

Message Text

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70

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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FM AMCONSUL LUANDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2891
INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
USCINCEUR GER
CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

CONFIDENTIAL LUANDA 0714

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT MILI AO
SUBJECT: REACTION OF LOCAL JUNTA MEMBER AND MFA TO LISBON'S
LATEST DECOLONIZATION PLAN

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. DURING LUNCH ON BOARD USS PAUL AUG 10, FUGIT AND I
DISCUSSED LOCAL SITUATION WITH ANGOLA JUNTA MEMBER
CAPTAIN LEONEL CARDOSO (ALSO NAVAL COMMANDER HERE);
REPRESENTATIVE OF MFA, LT CMDR BRANDAO; AND AIDE DE
CAMP OF JUNTA PRESIDENT ADMIRAL ROSA COTULHA, LT CMDR
CAVALHEIRO. THREE WERE NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT LATEST
LISBON PLANS FOR DECOLONIZATION HERE. BRANDAO AND
CAVALHEIRO FEEL SETTING SEMI-FIRM DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE,
I.E. WITHIN TWO YEARS, IS MAJOR MISTAKE AND ONE THAT THEY
WILL HAVE TO CORRECT SOON. THEY FELT STATEMENT WAS MEANT
TO CALM WHITES WHO HAVE BEEN SHOWING THEIR POLITICAL
STRENGTH LATELY, BUT THAT BLACKS WILL REACT
NEGATIVELY TO IT.

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2. BRANDAO STATED THAT UNITA HAD AGREED, IN ADVANCE,

TO SUPPORT STATEMENT. ASKED IF SAVIMBI WOULD JOIN GOVERNMENT, HE SAID NO BUT THAT HE MIGHT SEND A REPRESENTATIVE. NONE SAW ANY HOPE WHATSOEVER OF ROBERTO AND NETO COOPERATING IN SAME GOVERNMENT.

3. ALL WERE PESSIMISTIC ABOUT LOCAL SECURITY SITUATION, MERELY STATING HOPE THEY CAN MAINTAIN PRESENT MINIMUM DEGREE CONTROL IN MUCEQUES. (CORDOSO AND CAVALHEIRO, BOTH OF WHOM RECENTLY TRANSFERRED HERE FROM LISBON, LEFT THEIR WIVES THERE AND HAVE NO PRESENT PLANS TO BRING THEM TO LUANDA. BRANDAO, STATIONED HERE FOR TWO YEARS, IS SENDING HIS WIFE AND FAMILY BACK TO LISBON.)

4. CORDOSO TOOK PAINS EXPLAIN HIS DECISION DENY SHIPS' LIBERTY WAS TAKEN IN CAPACITY NAVAL COMMANDER AND NOT AS MEMBER JUNTA. JUNTA UNDERSTANDABLY TRYING HARD KEEP UP PUBLIC IMAGE OF CONFIDENCE. PORTUGUESE NAVY HERE TRIED HARD BOTH DENY LIBERTY AND AVOID RESPONSIBILITY FOR SO DOING.

PORTER

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